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EA-02-07

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
EUGENE DISTRICT OFFICE

DECISION RECORD and FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
Lake Creek Road Improvement  
Environmental Assessment No. OR090-EA-02-07

**FONSI**

On the basis of the information contained in the Environmental Assessment, and all other information available to me, it is my determination that implementation of the proposed action or alternatives will not have significant environmental impacts beyond those already addressed in the *Record of Decision (ROD) for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl* (April 1994), and the *Eugene District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan* (June 1995) as amended by the *Record of Decision for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines*, (January 2001), with which this EA is in conformance, and does not constitute a major federal action having a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement or a supplement to the existing environmental impact statement is not necessary and will not be prepared.

**DECISION and RATIONALE**

Based on the analysis documented in the Environmental Assessment (EA) OR090-02-07, and the Finding of No Significant Impact, it is my decision to select the Proposed Action. This alternative would improve approximately 10 miles of existing Road Nos. 15-7-23, 15-7-17, 15-7-26 and 15-7-35 within the Lake Creek watershed. This project is located in the Lake Creek Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA), approximately 13 air miles west of Junction City, Oregon. The improvement would upgrade existing aggregate surfaced road to a paved surface (Bituminous Surface Treatment or "chip seal"). The project would also replace, repair, or install additional drainage structures to improve drainage efficiency.

Watershed analysis has been completed for the Lake Creek Watershed and supported the need for road renovation and improvement to reduce sedimentation and to best attain Aquatic Conservation Strategy (ACS) objectives. The proposed action was selected because it best meets ACS objectives, provides better safety to the driving public, and improves access for passenger cars, recreational vehicles, and bicycles. The proposed action will also reduce routine maintenance costs and improve drainage structures, by replacing worn and undersized culverts that bar migration of aquatic species.

The proposed action is in compliance with the *Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl, April 1994, and the Eugene District Record of Decision (ROD)/Resource Management Plan (RMP), June 1995 as amended by the Record of Decision for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines, (January 2001).*

**CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION**

**Wildlife** - Pursuant to the Endangered Species Act, formal consultation was completed with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) on this proposed action. The USFWS issued its Biological Opinion on April 4, 2002. This opinion has been extended to include FY 2003 actions. According to that Biological Opinion, Lake Creek Road Improvement project would "May Affect, and is Likely to Adversely Affect" the northern spotted owl and marbled murrelets within the Area due to disturbance. This action would have "No Affect" on the bald eagle, and other federally listed/proposed terrestrial species. A future Biological Opinion will be issued for this project if it is to continue after 2003.

**Fisheries** - The proposed Lake Creek Road Improvement project is within the description and guidelines for the Road Maintenance element under the Programmatic Biological Assessment for the Oregon coastal coho salmon, as extended by the National Marine Fisheries Service, 21 December 2001, #OSB2001-0217-PC-RI, so no consultation is required for the Oregon coastal coho salmon, Critical Habitat, or Essential Fish Habitat (OSB2001-0070-IEC).

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Both the EA and preliminary FONSI were advertised on May 15, 2002, as available for a 15 day public review period in the Eugene Register-Guard. Copies of the EA and preliminary FONSI were mailed to interested individuals on our mailing list. No comments were received on this EA during the 15 day comment period provided.

Steven A. Calish  
Field Manager

3 June 2002  
Date